1928 – 1937

**1928** saw a burst of activity when 10 new WIs were formed making 46 WIs and 2,304 members. One of the new WIs being **Welbeck Abbey** who were given a **50-piece tea service by the Duchess of Portland**. Members began working for the community straight away by renovating old clothes for distressed miners and collected £70 of groceries for local causes. This year, 2017 we have the formation of a new **Welbeck WI**. The County Secretary, Miss Mariott was working from home and it was decided she should have built a cupboard for WI work only and a telephone was also installed. **‘Home and Country’**, the WIs own magazine was first published in 1919 and in 1928 began to have **County Supplements** and contributed to by the County Correspondent. Resolutions at the **NFWI Annual Meeting** were: The humane slaughter of animals; Pooling of Fares; Rural libraries. Choral and Drama Competitions were held. The **Royal Show** was held in **Nottingham** and members were very involved with the National Stand and providing hospitality. An Exhibition and Sale took place at the Drill Hall, Nottingham. There were 200 exhibits sent in by 600 members. Lady Sibell Argles (County Chairman) presented the Challenge Urn to Burton Joyce WI for the 3rd year running. **1929 and 53 WIs** with the County Executive members serving on a number of other organisations: Rural Community Council (RCC) County Education Committee; County Maternity & child welfare; Playing Fields; Anti-Litter League. The University was the venue for the Annual Council Meeting (ACM)with buses being run from the Market Square in Nottingham. Lunch was provided for 150 and tea for 400 members. County organised an outing to London by train. Coaches took 200 members around the sights and whilst there, Lady Sibell Argles laid a **wreath at the Cenotaph.** In **1930** the membership was **3,000**. At the ACM at Newark members heard a talk about Empire and Home Produce and were urged to **‘Buy British’**. The County Rally was held at **Gedling House**. The London outing was repeated in **1931** **and this time 450 members** went. The National AGM was held at the Albert Hall for the first time. A **Choral Festival** in April with 14 WI Choirs. By **1932 there were 64 WIs**. **In 1933,** the membership was **3,600**. Community work by WIs was varied; speeding dangers in villages; water shortage; food contamination; school milk supply; district nursing. **1934** There was a special class for WIs only at **Newark Show**. A County Exhibition was held in Nottingham. **1935 the County Badge** was designed based on the Foresters horn. A County Garden Party was held at **Flintham Hall**. There were stalls and exhibitions plus **Living Whist by East Bridgford WI. 1936 73 WIs 4000 members**. The first County office was leased at 5 Broughton Chambers, Nottingham. **1937** The ACM in Newark discussed the dangers of hire purchase and mid-day meals for school children. Lady Denman had been the National Chairman for 21 years and a book was complied with each County contributing a page. There is a copy of **‘A Nottinghamshire Window’** with a Lace border in our Archives. In March the County Exhibition was taken out of Nottingham and held at **Retford Town Hall**. After 20 years of steady growth much of it against a background of rural depression and decay, there were now **72 WIs**. Community work and education in many fields was accomplished with much fun and friendship.